

10/521 010

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



521 010



(43) International Publication Date
22 January 2004 (22.01.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/007556 A1

- (51) International Patent Classification⁷: C07K 19/00, (74) Agent: BLAKE DAWSON WALDRON PATENT SERVICES; Level 39, 101 Collins Street, MELBOURNE, Victoria 3000 (AU).
A61K 39/00, 39/245, 39/29
- (21) International Application Number: PCT/AU2003/000910 (81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (22) International Filing Date: 14 July 2003 (14.07.2003)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data: 2002950183 12 July 2002 (12.07.2002) AU (84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).
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- Published:
— with international search report
— with amended claims
- For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*

(54) Title: EXPRESSION OF HYDROPHOBIC PROTEINS

(57) **Abstract:** Methods are disclosed for the design of non-native (*i.e.* heterologous) polypeptides comprising a proportion of hydrophobic amino acids which have an increased probability of being efficiently expressed in an expression system such as a bacterial host (*e.g.* *E. coli*). The methods involve identifying one or more hydrophobic peptide sequences within a polypeptide of interest, and arranging or re-locating at least one of the hydrophobic peptide sequences within said polypeptide so as to generate a candidate polypeptide with reduced amplitude in hydrophobicity and/or length of any hydrophobic region(s). Such methods are particularly useful for designing polypeptide polypeptides, and specific examples of such are described for Epstein-Barr virus (EBV), hepatitis C virus (HCV) and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).

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